



Principal's Message

TERM THREE, WEEK FIVE

Kia Ora Koutou

Week five of a ten-week term is about to end. So many are unwell, and today my immune system has told me to take care of my health.

Poetry and Prose

I am an English and History teacher by training and 'back in the day' for three years I marked the external examination Bursary English. My marking area was Shakespeare, so I am going to use the poetry and prose influences to help me structure today's message.

Many of you will know the difference but just in case, and at the risk of boring you - **Poetry (verse)** is writing with a deliberate rhythm or meter and is often more figurative and expressive language. **Prose** is ordinary written or spoken language, arranged in sentences and paragraphs without a regular rhythmic pattern.

Here is a helpful poetry example:

The golden sun slipped softly from the sky,
And evening wrapped the world as birds flew by.

And here is the same idea in prose: The sun went down and evening arrived. Birds flew overhead as darkness gradually spread across the landscape.

Prose

I begin by informing you that Mr Andrew Atkins after an extended period of leave has resigned from St Matthew's. We are grateful to Mr Will Sharp who is filling this role as we undertake a recruitment process.

Prose and Poetry

I enjoy writing poems, but my pen has not rhymed for a while. Do not get too excited about what lies ahead ...I did not say I see myself as Shakespeare (as if). I thought I would write about this week and events of importance using a poem.



Let me start with Senior Pent,
A great lead into the week of Winter Tournament.
I acknowledge the commitment of coaches and managers sacrificing their paid work.
I know these people - their loyalty to our girls and their sport they never ever shirk.

I travelled to view what I was able of Football, Hockey and Senior A.
I witnessed grit, determination, and the joy of play.
I saw leadership from our seniors nurturing the next generation.
I saw sharing across schools and that's why we value this event's continuation.

There were some funny moments on a dreary cold day- this tale I will tell
To witness Charlie J run after a rolling ball suddenly rolling out as well.
Retrieving a football from a Marsden hedge how many 1^{sts} XI does it take, well I am told;
Quite a number and a few hairdos undone- a real sight to behold.

Netball will say goodbye to the intrepid defence of Ava Edge.
What she has passed onto the young players- what a privilege.
From 2027 we will miss her family always at our courtside.
No matter the team's fortunes over the years, always on show- their pride.

Hockey is rebuilding and the future is bright.

They lose significant year 13s but they have modelled well so the team will be just right.

For them Fed Cup is ahead – a national event.

Use all you have gained from this Senior Pent.

Now off to a different topic... here is the scene,

Which I am sure it will spark reminders of comments from me that have been.

So, I will keep this short, unlike Brexit;

About the two big holes in the front of our driveways- for entrance and exit.

So, although convenient to park across this wide cavity,

It is preferred that you park appropriately so vehicles can enter and leave.

Talking about entry one such is AI- it's all over the world.

We have bought into the hype – but do we really know what we have been ‘sold’?

St Matthew's has witnessed the influx and the speed;

So, we are homing in on safety, process, procedures staff and students will need.

We need to be sure that the messages we give are sound and will last.

To borrow from Shakespeare, we need to proceed wisely and slow; they stumble that run fast.

Like the Ranfurly Shield which went to Northland,

The Dunce Cup last night also changed hands.

The team will consider what went well and what did not.

To work to putting the cup again in its SMCS spot.

I will close with illness and absence and Influenza A,

Because I am sick and have sensibly taken a sick day.

I need to look at myself and role model what is best,

That when you are sick, we need to take care of ourselves and rest.

Prose

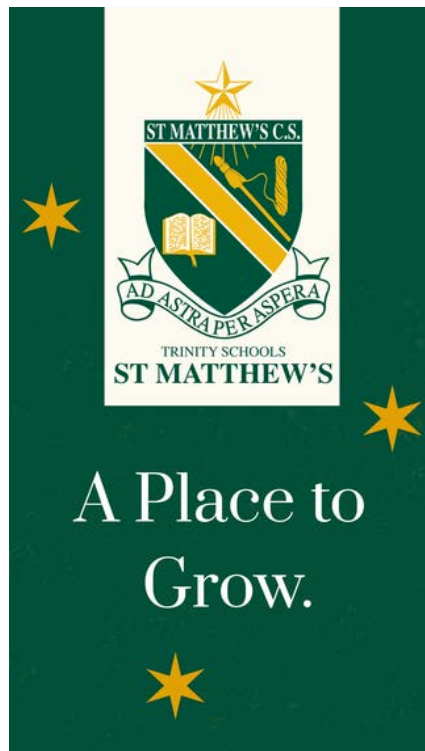
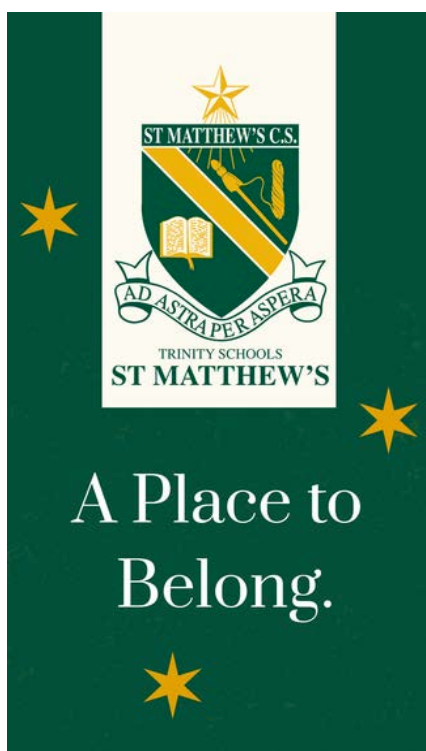
I hope this resonated. I got a kick out of writing it for you (I did have to AI I was right about the Ranfurly shield result. I did watch the match but spent time wondering about Northland's uniform colour- just saying).

Stay warm and surround yourself with people who care about you.

Have a great weekend and stay safe.

Ngā mihi

Phil



Boarding

While some of our Year 11 boarders have been temporarily relocated due to the dormitory upgrades, they have embraced life in the Leaders' Apartment. With their own common room, kitchenette, and television, the girls have enjoyed making the space their home while the improvements are underway. Pictured left to right: Annabelle, Zandie, Heidi, Katelyn, Zeta, and Addi.



Our Year 10 boarders have also been busy in the kitchen, baking a delicious fudge slice to contribute to the upcoming bake sale in support of the Cancer Society. Their efforts are a wonderful example of the generosity and community spirit that is so valued in our boarding house. Pictured left to right: Annabelle, Persia, Abi, Brooke, and Chika.



Olive, our boarding tutor this week, has been a star. With a steady stream of unwell girls requiring care and support, she has certainly been kept on her toes. We have been extremely busy managing seasonal colds in the Boarding House. In addition to caring for our boarders, we also support day girls who become unwell during the school day.

As a reminder to families, if your daughter is unwell, please keep her at home to help prevent the spread of illness and support the wellbeing of our school community.



Sport Schedule

Sport Schedule

Week 6 - Term 3

Monday August 24th - Sunday August 30th

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Before School / All Day	Junior Dance Troupe 1.10-1.55pm @ Lazarus			Football Primary Ferns Training 1.15pm-1.50pm			
	Football Trainings @ SMS Field SMS 1st vs Kuranui 1st XI 3.45pm @SMS Steel training 3.30-4.30pm	Football Games @ 3.45pm Finals TBC SMS 1st XI vs Chanel 3.45pm @SMS SMS Steel vs Waicol Dev 3.45pm @Waicol Guildford SMS Strikers vs Solway 2nd XI 3.45pm @SMS SMS Saints vs BYE SMS Stars vs BYE		Primary Football Ferns Game vs MIS Kahurangi 3.45pm @MIS		Senior A Netball departs for Tournament Week	1st XI Hockey 1st XI Football depart for Tournament Week
After School	Netball Primary Kiwika Training 3.45-4.45pm @ SMS Outside Courts Netball Primary Kowhai Training 3.30-4.30 @ SMS Outside Courts	Rifle Shooting @ Masterton Minature rifle club Van depart 6.20, Pick up 8.30		Squash @ Red Star Squash Courts 3.30-4.45pm Van departs 3.15pm, pick up 4.50pm	Primary Hockey Games @ Clareville Turf SMS vs MIS Combined 4pm, Northern Turf, Van Depart 3.15pm, Collect 5pm		
		Primary Netball Games @ Masterton Netball Courts SMS Kowhai vs SMS Kiwika vs SMS Kakariki vs	Hockey Primary 11s Training 3.30-4.30pm @ SMS Turf	Netball 1st XI Training 5.30-7pm @ SMS Gym			
	Badminton @ SMS Gym 3.30-4.30pm	Hockey 1st XI Training 5-6.30pm Van departs 4.30pm, pick up 6.40pm	Football 1st XI WRIGHT- MILNE CUP GAME vs Waicol 1st XI 3.45pm @Waicol van depart 3.15pm, collect 5.15pm				

St Matthew's Collegiate Sport Results

Week 4 Term 3

Live Integrated Activity sheet - available on our website:
<https://www.stmatts.school.nz/parents/newsletters/>



	Opponent	Score
Hockey		
Primary Sticks	MIS Pango	win 10-1
Primary Stars	Gladly Gold	loss 5-1
St Matts 2nd XI	Solway College 1st XI	win 2-1
St Matts Green	BYE	N/A
St matts 1st XI	PNGHS 1st XI	loss 1-0
St Matts Gold	Solway College 2ndXI	loss 7-2

Rifle shooting		
Lily Boggs	89.3	88.1
Ruby Ferguson	86	
Sophie Forbes	71.1	
Audrey Hall	94.2	94.4
Michelle Kooiman	48	
Eva MacManus	80.2	74.1
Amy Kuipers	74	
Tenley Richardson	80.1	
Maya Rosenbach	83	87.2
Katya Shi	85.1	81.1
Madi Duckett	80	

Football		
Primary Ferns	MIS Whero	win 3-1
Saints	BYE	N/A
Steel	SMS 1XI	loss 5-0
Stars	BYE	N/A
Strikers	Makoura	WBD
1st XI	Hadlow 1st XI	win 2-1
1st XI	Steel	win 5-0

Netball		
Primary Kowhai	MIS Pulse	win 24-4
Primary Kiwika	Lakeview Opals	loss 22-10
Primary Kakariki	MIS Tika	win 8-3
Jnr Gold vs	Kuranui Jnr A	win 34-9
Jnr Silver vs	Waicol Intermediate Gold	win 31-20
Jnr Pink vs	Chanel Pulse	WBD
Jnr White vs	Waicol Intermediate Red	LBD
Jnr Black vs	BYE	N/A
Snr Green vs	BYE	N/A
Snr Yellow vs	BYE	N/A
Stars vs	Waicol Snr C	win 23-15
13s vs	Makoura Jnr A	WBD
12s vs	Makoura Jnr B	WBD
Development vs	Waicol Masters	loss 29-19
Snr A vs	No Game	N/A

Around School

1st XI Hockey Milestones

The 1st XI Hockey team celebrated some special milestones during our annual Senior Pent Winter Sport Tournament.

Congratulations to Sam Huggins on reaching 100 caps, and to Olivia Fenwick and Josephine Presow on achieving 75 caps each.

To mark these outstanding achievements, all three students were presented with their own official cap in recognition of their dedication, commitment, and contribution to St Matthew's hockey over the past 3-4 years.

We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments. Well done, Sam, Olivia, and Josephine! 🍀🏑



Wairarapa Girls' Secondary Schools Champs 2026



A huge congratulations to our 2nd XI Hockey team on taking out the Wairarapa Girls' Secondary School Hockey Championship with a fantastic 3-0 win over Wairarapa College last night! A big thank you also to Chris Wilkie and Steph Jaspera for all the time and dedication they've given the team throughout the season. Well done, girls!

Year 9 mock Parliamentary Debate



Today Year 9 took part in a mock Parliamentary Debate. The Bill presented to Parliament was that social media for 16 and under should be illegal. The Government and Opposition presented strong arguments, however when it came to a vote the Bill was thrown out of Parliament! There was maybe some bias involved. The members had to respect the rules of Parliament under the watchful eye of our two 'Madam Speakers'.

Karaitianatanga Ora / Christianity Alive

This week in Junior Chapel we learned about the parable of The Wedding Feast – He Kīngi, He Hākari, He Karanga.

In the parable of the wedding feast, Jesus tells of a king who prepares a great hākari (feast) to celebrate the wedding of his son. The invitations go out, but many of those invited choose not to come. Eventually, the invitation is extended to everyone – haere mai, nau mai – come and join the celebration!

Jesus reminds us that God's kingdom is like this hākari: a place of welcome, belonging and abundant aroha. God's invitation is not reserved for a select few. It is an invitation to ngā tāngata katoa – all people – to come and share in the life and love of God.

“He rite hoki te rangatiratanga o te rangi ki te tangata, ki te kingi, i mahi i te marena mo tana tama.”

“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.”

– Matthew 22:2

At St Matthew's Collegiate School, we are called to be a community where people know they are welcome, valued and loved. Nau mai, haere mai – welcome! May we remember that God's invitation is always an invitation into whanaungatanga, into relationship and belonging.

This week, may we be people who open the door, make room at the table and extend the invitation.

He wāhi mō te katoa – there is a place for everyone.



Senior Pent Winter Sport Tournament



A special
Congratulations to
our 3 MVPs of the
tournament

Football: Isabelle
Lynn

Netball: Ava Edge

Hockey: Josephine
Presow



Our 1st XI Hockey, Snr A Netball, and 1st XI Football had a big 2 days away at their annual Senior Pent Winter Sport Tournament hosted by Samuel Marsden Collegiate this year in Wellington.

It was a tough tournament battling extreme weather, pitch conditions, strong competition, and a couple of battle wounds too. The teams showed incredible work ethic and sportsmanship throughout and all 3 teams finished 4th place in their sports.

A very big thank you to the time and commitment from our coaching staff Salty, Pip, Chopper, Amy & Deb with our teams. We couldn't do this without you

Gracias

Year 10 Spanish



This trimester in Spanish we have been studying La Comida (food). The students have cooked a variety of Spanish and Central and South American dishes and enjoyed lunch at Don Luciano.



Year 10 Daffodil Day Bake Sale

Our Year 10 students held their Daffodil Day Bake Sale this week in support of the Cancer Society.

A huge thanks to everyone who bought a treat and helped make the day a success. We love seeing our school community get behind such an important fundraiser!



ATTENDANCE NOTICE

AS YOU KNOW THE GOVERNMENT HAS INTRODUCED A NEW SYSTEM OF ATTENDANCE THIS YEAR. SOME FAMILIES WILL HAVE RECEIVED A NOTIFICATION OF YOUR DAUGHTER BEING 5 DAYS ABSENT. THIS IS RESET EVERY TERM. THIS IS JUST AN INDICATION TO YOU OF THE THESE NUMBER OF DAYS. AFTER THIS THE RANGE IS 10 DAYS AND 15 DAYS PER TERM. WE MONITOR THIS CAREFULLY AND DEANS WILL BE WORKING WITH FAMILIES IF THERE IS NOT A EXPLAINED REASON FOR THIS ABSENCE.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VIEW YOUR DAUGHTER'S RATE OF ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR, THIS IS ON THE PORTAL. ONCE LOGGED IN, GO TO THE 'SCHOOL LIFE' TAB AND CLICK 'ATTENDANCE'. YOUR DAUGHTER'S TIMETABLE WILL BE VISIBLE. IF YOU SCROLL DOWN THE ATTENDANCE RATE WILL BE IN BLUE UNDER THE TIMETABLE. THE PREFERRED RATE INDICATED OF ATTENDANCE BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION IS 90% OR ABOVE.



Food Technology



Elise Dry, Year 10 with her Pizza Pretzel and Alexandra Read, Year 11 with her Mozzarella Balls

Student BOT Representative



Ko tō reo. Ko tō kura.
Your Voice. Your School.



Returning officer:
Haley Feringa-Howley
Principal's PA

NOMINATIONS are OPEN to
become a Student Board Member

Do you want to make a difference in your school?

Then why not stand for election as the Student Representative on your School Board?

As a board member, you'll learn new skills, be able to have your say on important issues and make a positive contribution to your school and community.

For more information, go to www.trustee-election.co.nz.

Congratulations

Friends of St Matthews Fees
Raffle Winners for Term Three

**Gita Van Der Leek
& Tenley Richardson**

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Usual shop hours during term time: Thursdays 1pm- 4pm during term time.
If you would like to arrange an appointment outside these hours, please email

Juliet Smith: smcsuniforms@trinityschools.nz or
sm.uniforms@trinityschools.nz

Payment in the shop at the time of sale by EFTPOS or credit card only.
Uniform information: <https://www.stmatts.school.nz/parents/uniform/>



SELLING YOUR UNIFORM SECOND HAND

The St Matthew's Uniform Shop sells second hand uniform, on your behalf.

When an item of clothing sells, the shop retains a 30% commission, the amount owing to you is credited to your daughter's school account, this is done three times per year. For uniform that is sold after your daughter leaves, a bank account number, name of the account and email address will be required.

Clothing will get the best price when it is CLEAN; the Blazer, Tunic Dress and Senior Skirt should be dry cleaned. Please attend to discoloured underarms and collars before soaking white blouses in a stain removing laundry soaker (don't use bleach as this will fade the crest).

Uniform can be brought into the shop on Thursdays 1pm - 4pm during term time. Uniform may alternatively be left at the school office, marked "For Sale, attention UNIFORM SHOP"

Please make sure that it is securely boxed up, with your daughter's name included.

Ties & caps are sold second hand, but any money generated will be a donation to the shop.

ITEMS NOT SOLD SECOND HAND IN THE UNIFORM SHOP:

Old style Hoodies
Togs
Hockey/Football socks
Shoes & Sandals
Black ankle Socks
Old style PE tops & shorts

UNIFORM INFORMATION:

[HTTPS://WWW.STMATTS.SCHOOL.NZ/PARENTS/UNIFORM/](https://www.stmatts.school.nz/parents/uniform/)



SMOGA Grant Now Open!

Gretchen Williamson Excellence in Commerce Scholarship

Applications are now open for the Gretchen Williamson Excellence in Commerce Scholarship, available to Year 13 students intending to study Commerce at tertiary level. This prestigious scholarship offers \$5,000 in funding over two years, as well as mentorship from Gretchen Williamson – a leading financial adviser and St Matthew's Old Girl.

Gretchen is passionate about supporting young women into careers in finance and investment. This scholarship is part of her ten-year commitment to helping close the wealth gap for women through education and opportunity.

Applications close on 23 October 2026, with the recipient announced at Prizegiving in December.

For more information and to apply,
<https://forms.gle/owWyycFXJZdhqS74A>

SUBJECT INFORMATION EVENING

for 2027 Subject Selection

Venue: Rathkeale College Dining Hall

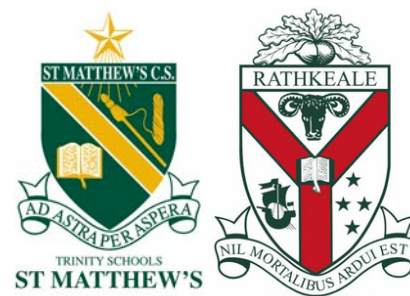
Date and time: Friday 21 August, 3.30pm to 5.30pm

All Year 11 and 12 students, and their parents, are encouraged to attend this event.

The purpose of the evening is to provide information about the subjects which will be offered at Rathkeale and Senior College in 2027.

Subject displays will be set up, and Heads of Faculty and Subjects will be present to answer questions. Careers information will also be on display.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team and the Careers Advisor will be available to answer any questions too.



Key Dates:

Tuesday 25 August - BOT Student Election Nominations Close,

Wednesday 26 August - Yr10/11 Wellbeing Day, Ag/Hort Field Trip

Thursday 27 August - Yr 11 Bake Daffodil Day Bake Sale

Friday 28 August - Daffodil Day Collection

Sunday 30 August - Friday 4 September - Winter Tournament Week.

Tuesday 1 September - Yr 7 2nd Vaccinations

Friday 4 September - Senior College Subjects Due

2026 Term Dates

Term One - Monday 2nd February to Thursday 2nd April

Term Two - Monday 20th April to Friday 3rd July

Term Three - Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September

Term Four - Monday 12th October to Saturday 5 December



ONE DAY WITH

**FOOT
NOTE**
New Zealand Dance

WORKSHOP

CONTEMPORARY TECHNIQUE
COMPANY REPERTOIRE
IMPROVISATION PRACTICE
CHOREOGRAPHIC PRACTICE

A FULL DAY DANCE WORKSHOP
TAILORED FOR YOUTH AND
YOUNG DANCERS AGED 13-18

Weds 30th September
Footnote Dance Studios | Cuba St
Register at www.footnote.org.nz



SAM NEILL

TRIBUTE SCREENINGS

Three films. One extraordinary career. Join us for a special cinema tribute celebrating the screen career of Sir Sam Neill.



JURASSIC PARK (1993)

Saturday 22 August | 3:00pm

Steven Spielberg's landmark blockbuster and the film that introduced Sam Neill as Dr. Alan Grant to audiences around the world.

\$15 | BOOK TICKETS



HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE (2016)

Sunday 23 August | 3:00pm

Talka Waititi's much-loved New Zealand film, celebrating Sam Neill's warmth, humour and the humanity he brings to Uncle Hec.

\$15 | BOOK TICKETS



DEATH IN BRUNSWICK (1990)

Sam Neill | Curator's Pick
Sunday 23 August | 7:30pm

A brilliant Australian dark comedy starring close friends Sam Neill and John Clarke.

\$15 | BOOK TICKETS



Presented by The Story Studio in
partnership with Regent 3 Cinemas



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set strong
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Escape grabs
with practical
techniques.

Stay calm and
confident under
pressure.

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over 4 weeks



Monday, 7th
September 2026



7.30pm -
8.30pm



City Fitness
Gym, Masterton

MEDICAL INFORMATION

- Does your daughter carry and Epi Pen?
- Does your daughter carry/require medication?
- Does your daughters medical information need updating?



Please get in touch if you think you may need to advise of any new medical details we hold on file to ensure we have the most up to date information



Stay 'Connected'
With our School App!

Simply Download 'SchoolappsNZ' from the Google Play or App Store & search your school once installed.

